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DATE: 15 OCT 69

Approved For Release 2002/08/01 : CIA-RDP75B00285R000100080008-5

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IDEALIST/LIFE SUPPORT

SUBJECT: 6 LINE PARACHUTE MODIFICATION

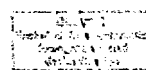
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1. REQUEST YOU CONSIDER THE FEASIBILITY OF MODIFYING THE RQ-225 PARACHUTE TO INCLUDE THE 6 LINE MID AIR MODIFICATION.
2. STANDARD AIR FORCE PARACHUTING PROCEDURES HAVE INCORPORATED THE FOUR LINE/FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS. PILOT ACCEPTANCE OF CUTTING LINES WAS LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC. AIR FORCE TCTO 14D 1-2-613 RECENTLY ELIMINATED THIS CUTTING PROCEDURE SINCE PROBLEM AREAS WERE IDENTIFIED IN SEA OPERATIONS. THESE INCLUDE THE DIFFICULTY OF AN INJURED MAN ACCOMPLISHING THE CUT, DANGER OF CUTTING WRONG LINES OR CUTTING TOO MANY LINES, AND THE PSYCHOLOGICAL RESISTANCE TO PARTIAL DESTRUCTION OF AN OTHERWISE GOOD PARACHUTE. FOR THESE REASONS THERE IS NOW A NEW METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING THE SAME END RESULT. LANYARDS ARE INSTALLED ON THE PARACHUTE WHICH, WHEN PULLED, RELEASE THE DESIGNATED LINES

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AND ALLOW FOR THE DAMPENING OF OSCILLATIONS AND INCREASED STABILITY OF THE PARACHUTE.

3. TEST JUMPS HAVE ALREADY BEEN ACCOMPLISHED AT HQ'S PERSONNEL TO EVALUATE THIS MODIFICATION. A FOUR LINE MODIFICATION WAS UNSUCCESSFUL IN ACCOMPLISHING THE DESIRED RESULT; HOWEVER, WHEN 6 LINES WERE CUT, CONTROL OF THE PARACHUTE WAS EXCELLENT.

4. EXCERPTS FROM SEA EPISODES IN WHICH THE FOUR LINE CUT HAS BEEN PER-FORMED ALONG WITH THE TEST RESULTS ACCOMPLISHED BY THIS HQ FOLLOWS UNDER SEPARATE COVER.

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